

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, every year since 1963, when President John F. Kennedy officially established Older Americans Month, May has served as an opportunity to recognize the needs and contributions of older American communities across the country. This year's theme, "Aging Well, Living Well" offers us an opportunity to reflect on the shifting needs of seniors and to highlight the issues that contribute to improving seniors' quality of life.

In the last 100 years, the number of Americans 65 or over increased more than tenfold, and the growing number of racially and ethnically diverse communities continues to contribute to the unique character of American seniors. As a member of the Congressional Older Americans Caucus, I am well aware of the unique needs of our older population, especially in terms of accessing affordable health care, prescription drugs, and securing Social Security.

The Federal Government created the Medicare and Social Security program in order to guarantee that after a lifetime of working and paying into the system, retired Americans would have access to health care coverage and retiree benefits. I remain committed to strengthening and preserving these programs, which have allowed generations of retirees to live with dignity and integrity.

As a member of the Universal Health Care Task Force, I continue to work to ensure that health care is available and affordable for all Americans. We must be cautious of risky privatization schemes that could reduce access to affordable health care or Social Security benefits. Aging well and living well mean that health care, prescription drugs, and Social Security must be made affordable and accessible for all American seniors.

In recognition of Older Americans Month, I commend our nation's seniors for their many contributions to our society and I will continue to fight to protect and improve American seniors' quality of life.

IN RECOGNITION OF WALTER CRONKITE RECEIVING THE HARRY S TRUMAN GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARD

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Walter Cronkite, recipient of the 2004 Harry S Truman Good Neighbor Award. In 1953, longtime friends arranged an

annual birthday luncheon for the then-retired 33rd President of the United States, Harry S Truman. After his death in 1972, the birthday celebration was continued in his honor through a local foundation established to continue to pay tribute to his virtues of courage and leadership. Each year, the Harry S Truman Good Neighbor Award Foundation recognizes the national and international ideals of President Truman and preserves his memory by honoring such local individuals and encouraging young people to pursue international study.

This year, the foundation has selected Walter Cronkite to the prestigious Good Neighbor Award in recognition of his outstanding career in broadcasting. For more than 60 years Americans nightly received unbiased and factual national and international wisdom from the golden voice of Walter Cronkite. This Northwest Missourian brought us reports from the European theater in World War II and reported on the Nuremberg trials. His insights to the turbulent 60's awakened us to civil rights and human rights issues. He comforted us through the grief of three assassinations in that same decade, reporting the dreadful news to a shocked nation with his characteristic insight and somber vision. When President John F. Kennedy was struck down in November of 1963, followed by the murder of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. just before Palm Sunday in 1968, and then-Senator Robert Kennedy's killing on the eve of his California primary victory in June of the same year, the loss of these great leaders was all but unbearable, were it not for the constant and reassuring presence of Walter Cronkite, reaching out to us with straightforward and thoughtful news reporting.

Walter Cronkite became a war correspondent again in the late 60's when he reported to a divided country on Vietnam. Following the Tet offensive in January 1968, often considered a turning point in the war, Cronkite visited the war torn country and called for diplomatic negotiations to end the stalemate. By then, the tide of public opinion had begun to turn against the war and President Lyndon B. Johnson announced that he would not seek reelection in March of that year. The decade ended on a high note, however, when the first manned spacecraft was sent to the moon and Walter Cronkite reported the launch with his infamous, "Go Baby, Go." On July 20, 1969, he shared the moon landing with an awestruck nation in what some called "Walter to Walter" coverage on CBS news. He provided continuous coverage for the almost 30 hours it took Apollo XI to complete its mission.

The 70's brought political scandal and Walter Cronkite reported to the nation with accuracy and balance from June 17, 1972, the morning after the Watergate breakin, through August 8, 1974, when Richard M. Nixon became the first President of the United States to resign from office because of scandal. Walter Cronkite's incredible career included interviews with international heads of state, while keeping the nation informed of worldwide events, as well as audiences with every U.S.

President since Harry Truman. He officially retired in 1981, but we are grateful that he continues to work on documentaries and programs for broadcast on PBS and the Discovery and Learning Channels.

The news has become the information tool that informs, stimulates interest, evokes debate, and ultimately protects our democracy. Walter Cronkite's dedication to his professional career is exemplary for its objective reporting, credibility, and his trademark delivery that has made an American icon.

President Truman's high regard of Walter Cronkite is reflected best in a letter to Mr. Raymond E. Dix, President of the Ohio Newspaper Association on January 1, 1966.

DEAR MR. DIX: I was glad to have your letter informing me of the contemplated presentation of the Distinguished Service to Journalism Award to Walter Cronkite. I know of no one more worthy of being so honored by a jury of his peers. For one who has had some slight exposure to the press—the spoken and the written—with some misadventures and collisions along the way, I continue to have a healthy respect for that all important free institution.

Here and there, over a span of time, some of the practitioners in that estate manage to rise to a special place of their own and become a force in their own right. Walter Cronkite looms large in that category and I always associate him with the quality of never failing credibility.

Please give Walter my warm personal greetings.

Sincerely yours,

HARRY S TRUMAN.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in warm congratulations to our native son, Walter Cronkite, for receiving the Harry S Truman Good Neighbor Award for his outstanding contribution to journalism and his "neverfailing credibility." As a role model, he has inspired individuals like me to fight the good fight for a just cause, secure in the knowledge that armed with the facts and the passion for what is right and just, one can make a difference in the lives of others. Thank you, Walter Cronkite.

HONORING THE SUN-REPORTER NEWS JOURNAL

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor the Sun-Reporter, one of this country's most respected African American newspapers, on the occasion of their 60th anniversary. The Sun-Reporter serves as an indispensable voice for the African American community in the San Francisco Bay Area and across the Nation.

The Sun-Reporter was founded in 1944 at a time when African Americans were relocating to the Bay Area in large numbers to work in the wartime shipyards. Founded by Thomas C. Fleming, a brilliant journalist, the paper

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

originated as The Reporter, but soon merged with the Sun-Reporter, a paper acquired in a poker game by Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett, Fleming's longtime friend and a significant drum major for justice. Thus, the Sun-Reporter was born, with Goodlett as the paper's Editor and Publisher, Dr. Dan Collins as Co-Publisher, and Fleming as Managing Editor. In 1951, Dr. Goodlett became the sole publisher.

Under the leadership of Dr. Goodlett and Mr. Fleming, the Sun-Reporter became a vital source of news and an editorial voice for the Bay Area's African American community. Over time, it developed a reputation as one of this country's preeminent African American newspapers.

The paper has taken strong editorial stands against racism, segregation, war, and the unequal treatment of African Americans and other groups that have experienced systemic prejudice and discrimination. It has actively fought for civil rights, fair employment and housing law, and global peace.

The paper has taken courageous positions on a wide range of issues. It relentlessly challenged school segregation; it denounced Senator Joseph McCarthy's assault on civil liberties in the days of the cold war; and, as a result of its publicity, the Sun-Reporter was largely responsible for bringing Paul Robeson to San Francisco for a concert at the Third Baptist Church when he was barred from appearing in all other venues.

The Sun-Reporter has been a focal point for the African-American community in the Bay Area. It has been host to visits from many luminaries, including Malcolm X, Muhammad Ali, Dick Gregory, and numerous civil rights activists.

Many young and talented journalists who got their start at the Sun-Reporter have gone on to successful careers in journalism, including Lance Gilmore, Edith Austin, Belva Davis, Valerie Coleman, and many more.

In 1997, Amelia Ashley-Ward succeeded Dr. Goodlett as the paper's Publisher. Ms. Ashley-Ward, an award-winning journalist and photo-journalist, has continually raised the Sun-Reporter's standard of excellence, and it remains an important and valued source of news and editorials for the Bay Area's African American community.

I take great pride in honoring the Sun-Reporter today for its excellence in journalism and for its unyielding pursuit of equality and justice for African Americans everywhere. We are grateful to have such a fine newspaper in the Bay Area, and look forward to many more years of success.

CONCERNS ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF IMMIGRATION AND FOREIGN LABOR ON DOMESTIC EMPLOYMENT

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address an issue about which many of my constituents are increasingly concerned: namely, the effects of immigration and foreign labor on our domestic job markets.

It is no secret that the American economy has lost 2.6 million jobs since President Bush

first took office in 2001. My home state of Pennsylvania has been one of the hardest hit in this area, losing over 135,000 manufacturing jobs in the last three years.

This destructive trend has also begun to expand into other sectors of our economy as companies seeking to cut costs have started shifting engineering, technology, and other service-related jobs to places such as China, India, and the Philippines. Moreover, my constituents are increasingly troubled by the decisions of many American employers to bring foreign workers to the United States in record numbers. As a result of these developments, many Americans are either losing their jobs to cheap foreign labor, both at home and abroad, or are accepting lower wages due to the huge influx of domestic foreign workers, both legal and illegal.

In these matters, I am very concerned about the failure to enforce effectively our immigration policies and prevent illegal immigration. In addition to the millions of legal immigrants already residing in the United States, experts now estimate that ten to fifteen million additional illegal immigrants now live here with roughly another 500,000 added yearly. The huge increase of foreign workers moving to the U.S. in recent decades has occurred because of our weak and short-sighted immigration policies.

Mr. Speaker, our immigrant heritage, in my view, has helped to make the United States the greatest nation in the world. It is, however, at least equally, if not more important, that we do all we can to protect American workers, citizens, and taxpayers from the costs and potential security risks associated with illegal immigration. The President's recent proposal on immigration unfortunately falls considerably short of achieving real reform. Consequently, the Congress needs to rethink our immigration policies and develop a long-term, workable plan for addressing these important matters.

While I support keeping an appropriate level of legal immigration, we must put an immediate halt to our tacit approval of those who flaunt our laws and come here illegally. We must also ensure that a sufficient number of temporary work visas are available in selected areas, such as nursing, agriculture, and tourism, but only where an adequate supply of domestic workers is not available. Finally, we must ensure that current American workers are not losing their jobs or being forced to survive on depressed wages because we are voluntarily importing far more foreign workers than we need through legal and illegal immigration.

In sum, Mr. Speaker, we need to restore the balance between protecting American workers and promoting effective immigration policy. We must also correct our flawed immigration policies in order to protect national security and promote economic growth at home for the benefit of both current U.S. workers and future generations of Americans.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JIM DUNN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Grand

Junction, Colorado resident Jim Dunn for his efforts to help comfort our nation's veterans. For several years, Jim and his wife Margaret, who sadly passed away this March, took the time nearly every holiday to bring candy and fruit baskets to the men at the Veteran's Association Medical Center. Jim's service reminds us all of the great importance of and need to care for and cherish America's great heroes, and it is my honor to recognize his dedication to our veterans today.

Jim and Margaret began their visits to the medical center eighteen years ago, often going several times a month and enlisting others, such as the City Market, to help in their cause. They also grew grapes and pears on their ranch to bring to the men. It is Jim's hope that more people will take up the mantle from Margaret and him in order to brighten the holidays for the veterans who ensured our freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Jim Dunn before this body of Congress and this nation. His efforts to brighten the lives of our veterans are truly remarkable. The freedoms we enjoy today are a direct result of the sacrifices made by veterans throughout our nation. I sincerely thank him for his dedication.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE OF MIKE WEBB

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding public service of a good friend of mine, Mike Webb. Mike served on the La Vergne, Tennessee, Board of Mayor and Alderman for 16 years, including the last 10 years as mayor.

Mike has helped La Vergne grow from a sleepy little community to a major distribution hub. In 1990, for example, the city had a population of 7,499. Now that population has grown to nearly 22,000 people. Mike can be proud of the leadership and integrity he has provided during that tremendous growth.

Issues ranging from trash pick-up to fire and police protection, and everything in between, have crossed Mike's desk during his tenure as an alderman and a mayor. His common sense and wit prevailed through it all. Some facilities of note that occurred under his administration are the construction of a 20,000-square-foot award-winning library, a 10-million gallon-per-day water treatment plant, and several major road improvement projects.

His years of experience and leadership have created a fiscally sound and well-managed city government. The city of La Vergne will sorely miss Mike's leadership, his unflinching dedication and his tireless service. I congratulate Mike on his outstanding public-service career and wish him well in his future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING SIR ROGER
BANNISTER

HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the accomplishments of Sir Roger Bannister.

Roger Bannister is best known as the man who ran the miracle mile. He was the first man in recorded history to break the four-minute mile barrier.

Until the time of his accomplishment, virtually no one thought it possible that a man could run that fast. But, it was through his athletic ability and technical knowhow that Roger Bannister persevered to run the miracle mile.

Bannister attended Oxford University to study medicine. His spare time was devoted to the track and he soon became an accomplished middle distance runner.

Despite the naysayers, Bannister believed that with perseverance he could run faster than anyone before him. He used his knowledge as a physician and painstakingly researched the mechanical aspects of running to develop scientific training methods to aid him.

In 1954, his hard work, discipline, and determination finally paid off as he sprinted to the finish line, in a time of three minutes fifty-nine point four seconds. That day, his name was forever written not only into record books, but into sporting folklore as well.

It was Dr. Bannister's dedication to excellence that paved the way for countless other athletes, including myself, to stretch themselves to new levels of achievement.

In later years Bannister concentrated on medicine, and became a consultant neurologist. He continued to run to keep fit right up until 1975, when he broke his ankle in a motor accident.

Today marks the 50th anniversary of his historic run. I hope this day can serve as a testament to young people everywhere that with perseverance and discipline, they too can achieve goals others never dreamed possible.

RECOGNITION OF KIM BIGLEY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Kim Bigley who was recently killed in Kosovo.

Kim Bigley was an employee of DynCorp International which was serving with the United Nations as international police officers. Kim and other members were fired upon by a Jordanian police officer for unknown reason and she and two others were killed in the resulting firefight.

Kim Bigley was a 47-year-old who lived most of her life in southern and southwestern Illinois. She was the former warden of the Shawnee Correctional Center, and had just completed her first day of job orientation when she was killed. She is survived by her parents, Jim and Janice Bigley of Greenfield; sons, Casey Morrow of Springfield and Quinn Morrow of Decatur; daughter, Karly Morrow of Pa-

ducah; and a brother, Joe Bigley of Sherman. My thoughts and prayers go out to her families and loved ones. Ms. Bigley gave her life in an effort to improve the lives of others. This sacrifice should never be forgotten.

EXPRESSING CONCERN OF CONGRESS OVER IRAN'S DEVELOPMENT OF MEANS TO PRODUCE NUCLEAR WEAPONS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution. I commend the Chairman and Ranking Member for bringing this important discussion to the Floor of the House.

We are living in a dangerous and difficult time. It is absolutely essential that we continuously scan our world-through our intelligence agencies, through cooperation with our allies, and with the United Nations-to find threats to the American people and to the values that we hold dear. As the intelligence data rolls in, we need to have an honest and robust debate about how to deal with emerging threats.

We must prioritize the dangers that face us, make difficult decisions about what are the most imminent threats, and focus on them. Without focus and resolve on truly pressing issues, we can undermine our own positions and the safety of the American people and our allies.

Obviously, the focus of this nation has been turned to Iraq. That was the issue that the President chose to focus on; that is where we are losing men and women in combat; that is where we are spending hundreds of billions of dollars in taxpayer money. However, now we are realizing that perhaps Iran has been, and continues to be, a much more imminent and ominous threat to our well-being.

As we as a nation make decisions about how to deal with that threat, this time we should have an open and honest dialogue here in Congress. That is why I believe this resolution is important.

For over a decade, the United States has been trying to alert the world to Iran's efforts to covertly develop nuclear weapons. For many years, Iran has deceived the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the world about the true purpose of its supposedly peaceful nuclear energy program.

Iranian leaders, through the international nuclear black-market, acquired equipment and facilities to produce nuclear-weapons-grade uranium. As a result of IAEA inspections over the past fifteen months, we now know that Iran has acquired designs for sophisticated uranium enrichment equipment and has been hiding it for years. Iran has even experimented with material that could be used to initiate a nuclear detonation.

Because Iran used the same supplier network that provided Libya with the blueprint for a nuclear warhead, we must assume that Iran may also have an operable nuclear bomb design.

Recent limited cooperation with weapons inspectors, and diplomatic efforts, cannot overshadow the fact that Iran remains a real and

unpredictable threat that we must face. This is now at crisis level. Iran must not be allowed to acquire nuclear weapons. We must keep the pressure on Iran, as the international community did with Libya, to push Iran off this most dangerous path.

We must reach out to our friends and allies in the EU and elsewhere, and lead them to take strong action. America cannot bring about change in Iran on our own, especially with our soldiers spread thin in Iraq and Afghanistan already. It will take a truly global effort to bring about a peaceful resolution to this difficult situation.

Mr. Chairman, this resolution sets a new standard for states to have access to technology for peaceful nuclear purposes. It declares that Iran, through its repeated and flagrant violations of its international obligations, has forfeited the right to be trusted with technology that can be misused to produce weapons-grade uranium and plutonium. This is tough medicine, denying Iran a valuable source of energy—but it is necessary, to protect Ourselves and the region. Perhaps peaceful use of nuclear power can be a carrot that encourages the Iranian leadership to be a more trustworthy member of the international community.

Mr. Chairman, this is truly a critical time in the history of the Middle East. Tensions of the past are now combining with technology of the future. Poor diplomacy over the past years has further fanned the growing flame. We need to find a way to put this fire out. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, to send a message to Iran and the world that this Congress is ready to make bold and strong moves to enforce the Non-Proliferation Treaty and international law.

HONORING WILLIAM LEVINSON OF
MARIN COUNTY, CA

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William Levinson who is retiring after 12 years as Superintendent of Tamalpais Union High School District in southern Marin County, California. His passion for education is evident in his work in the district as well as in his mentoring of other superintendents and his leadership in working with government agencies, the business community, and non-profit organizations to maximize resources for children and families.

Bill grew up in White Plains, New York, and graduated from the University of Michigan in 1964 with a BA in English literature. In 1966 he earned an MA in Elementary Education at the same university. There he met his Judy Falick, his wife of 36 years. He later earned his doctorate in Educational Leadership and Administration at Teachers' College, Columbia University. His daughter JoAnne was born in New Jersey and graduated from Redwood High School in 1994.

Bill's work experience has included stints at the New York City Welfare Department and as a Vista Volunteer as well as teaching in schools in New York, New Jersey, and California. He also served as superintendent in the Reed School District in Tiburon and the

Sonoma Valley Unified School District in Sonoma. As superintendent for Tamalpais Union High School District, he managed to raise teacher for salaries so that the students could have the best and brightest teachers possible.

Membership in the Marin County School/Law Enforcement Partnership, School to Career Partnership, the Treasury Oversight Committee, and the Joint Legislative Advisory Committee demonstrates Bill's commitment to education on the community level. He has been President of the Marin Association of Superintendents and the Special Education Local Plan Area Operational Steering Committee and worked statewide on behalf of small school districts and basic aid districts.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Levinson's commitment to education extends beyond his duties as a superintendent. Talk to him and you understand that he is all about the students. I am proud to salute an educator who demonstrates the passion we need to ensure that our nation's children will grow up to be the leaders of tomorrow.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JESSICA
McKAY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity and recognize Jessica McKay, a senior at Fruita Monument High School in Fruita, Colorado. A member of the varsity golf team, Jessica has had a remarkable spring season. Beginning with a thirteen shot win at the season opening tournament at Tiara Rado Golf Course, she has dominated the Western Slope Tour. Jessica has demonstrated remarkable poise and courage to become the player she is today.

As a four-year varsity player on the Fruita Monument team, Jessica has steadily improved to become one of the top golfers in the state. However, Jessica and her family were struck with tragedy when, during her sophomore year, her younger brother Ricky was killed in a car accident, and six months later her father Tim died of a heart attack. Jessica did not play golf for eight months, but feeling guided by her departed loved ones, she rededicated herself to the game. Last summer she participated in a program that took her to Rhode Island and Florida, and she competed in a tournament in the Virgin Islands. Not only is Jessica an excellent golfer, but she is also an inspiration to her team and a natural leader.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the achievements of Jessica McKay before this body of Congress and this nation. Her dedication and perseverance in spite of obstacles is truly moving. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MRS. MARTHA
MARTINA THERESA DE LA ROSA
RIOS

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize the numerous contributions of Martha Martina Theresa De La Rosa Rios, who is being honored with the Mexican Mother of the Year Award by the Mexican Mother of the Year Association.

Born on January 10, 1933, in Los Angeles, California, Mrs. Rios graduated from Sacred Heart of Jesus High School and married her high school sweetheart, Jesus Melendrez Rios in 1953, with whom she recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. A mother of five, Martha Rios has always prioritized the happiness and well-being of her children and family above all else. She made sure that her children had beautiful birthday cakes and presents on the holidays even though their financial resources were tight. It comes as no surprise to all those who know her—Martha Rios exemplifies a giving and dedicated mother whose love for her children sees no boundaries.

Martha Rios not only devotes herself to her family, but also generously gives her time and energy to her community as well. As a first step in her goal to help others, Mrs. Rios enrolled in Rio Hondo College in her forties and balanced taking care of her family and studying to become a Registered Nurse. After attaining her degree, she worked in the Emergency Room at the Beverly Hospital in Montebello, California, where she spent many hours trying to relieve patients' distress.

Mrs. Rios also worked as a nurse for AltaMed, and eventually became a social worker for the elderly in the community. With a strong sense of social duty, she often gave her patients small gifts or food out of her own pocket. Cherished and respected by all those around her, Mrs. Rios relentlessly strives to make her community a happier, healthier and safer place for all. Her devotion to her family, work, and her commitment to others has earned her the love and praise of countless people who have received her comfort, advice and support.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Mrs. Martha Martina Theresa De La Rosa Rios for her selfless and extraordinary dedication to her family and our community. I am happy to know that there are mothers like Mrs. Rios who will serve as role models for future generations of Mexican-American families, and I am honored to recognize her today.

EXPRESSING CONCERN OF CON-
GRESS OVER IRAN'S DEVELOP-
MENT OF MEANS TO PRODUCE
NUCLEAR WEAPONS

SPEECH OF

FORTNEY "PETE" STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, Iran's deceptions about its nuclear weapons program are rightly

condemned. The United States ought to use the tools at our disposal—both political and economic—to demand an end to their egregious policies.

However, this resolution calls for the U.S. to use "all appropriate means to deter, dissuade, and prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons." As long as President Bush is in office, I can no longer trust that our foreign policy will be carried out using "appropriate means." This President is no longer deserving of our trust.

That's why I am forced to vote present on this resolution. I simply don't trust that President Bush won't misinterpret Congressional intent and attempt to use this resolution in ways Congress never intended.

The pre-emptive quagmire in Iraq in which we now find ourselves was started under the pretense of deterring and preventing weapons of mass destruction. In fact, President Bush used past declarations of Congress meant merely to reprimand Iraq to justify full-blown war against that regime.

Mr. Speaker, the Bush foreign policy of pre-emptive war, threats, and isolation has made the world a far more dangerous place. I want no part of this neoconservative agenda.

TRIBUTE TO ERNEST KOLB,
MAYOR OF OAK LAWN, COOK
COUNTY, IL

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of a remarkable civic leader from the Third District of Illinois, Mayor Ernest F. Kolb. Throughout his career, Mayor Kolb was an incredible visionary for the Village of Oak Lawn.

Mayor Ernie was a strong, energetic leader, and over the years he became a dear friend of mine. The people of Oak Lawn thought the world of him, for he was a man of true character and integrity. Mayor Ernie passed away in June of 2003, yet he will live on in our hearts and always be remembered by the people of Oak Lawn.

Mayor Ernie served the Village of Oak Lawn since 1955, and as mayor for the past twenty six years. He dedicated his life to the village, at all times envisioning routes to build a better community. Mayor Ernie greatly impacted the growth and prosperity of the village by seeing to the construction of a new village hall, police station, and fire station. Mayor Ernie continuously recruited new businesses, worked to beautify the community, and overall improved the quality of life.

On April 24, 2004, the Ridgeland School District honored this great man by dedicating the Ernest F. Kolb Elementary School in his name. During financial hardship for the State of Illinois, the district was forced to close down several schools. Mayor Ernie went far beyond the call of duty to ensure that the Dearborn Heights Elementary School kept the doors open to their students. Today, the newly renovated Dearborn Heights will possess the name and spirit of Ernest F. Kolb. The Village of Oak Lawn will continue to share in his passion for education. The future of our communities rest in the children of our schools and it

was the goal of Mayor Ernie to make sure the students believed in their potential.

Mr. Speaker, I am certain that Ernie Kolb's enthusiasm for education, community strength, and civic leadership will forever linger in the minds of the people of Oak Lawn.

RECOGNITION OF LANCE CORPORAL TORREY STOFFEL-GRAY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Torrey Stoffel-Gray, who was recently killed in action in Iraq.

Lance Cpl. Torrey Stoffel-Gray was a 19-year-old Marine from Patoka, Illinois. Patoka is a rural town in my district with a population around 630. At 16 he left Patoka to enter Lincoln Challenge, a military-style alternative school at Rantoul, Ill. Many friends and family say that Lincoln Challenge changed his life and helped him find his way. This young man was recently killed in action in Iraq when his convoy was struck by rocket-propelled grenades and gunfire in the Al Anbar Province. My condolences go out to his family and friends.

Lance Cpl. Stoffel-Gray is survived by his mother, Mary Stoffel, his stepfather Jerry Stoffel and his three brothers, Brandon, Russell, and Blake. Lance Cpl. Stoffel-Gray was awarded the Purple Heart, which was presented to his mother at the time of his burial. Not enough can be said about Lance Cpl. Stoffel-Gray and the rest of our brave men and women serving in Iraq. These soldiers are risking their lives everyday to ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the world. I salute him and my best wishes go out to his family and all the troops fighting to ensure freedom and democracy.

RECOGNIZING VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MILITARY IMPACTED SCHOOLS, TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATION, AND STAFF FOR THEIR ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION OF MILITARY CHILDREN

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am here to recognize the valuable contributions of military impacted schools and their contributions to the education of military children. There are approximately 750,000 school-aged children of members of the active duty Armed Forces in the United States. 650,000 of these military have been children served in public schools across the United States.

Approximately 100,500 military children have been served in Department of Defense Education Activity schools in the United States and overseas.

Schools serving military installations stress the importance of being aware of what is hap-

pening in the world and the impact of world events on the lives of military families and can provide students a sense of safety and reassurance.

Schools serving military installations understand the importance of providing a normal environment and regular routine for children of parents in the military before learning can ever take place and can offer increased counseling for military children due to the deployment of family members.

These schools serve students whose parents can be deployed for long periods of time and often with short notice. The teachers are trained to work with military children and their classmates when there is a service-related incident or death.

I am pleased to be joined by my colleagues to recognize the contributions of the teachers, administration, and staff of Military Impacted Schools and the Department of Defense Education Activity schools world-wide. Also, I commend the teachers in military impacted communities who work on the front lines at home to educate students during times of peace and times of conflict.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KAY HAYASHI

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to pay tribute to the life and memory of Kay Hayashi, of Grand Junction, Colorado, who passed away recently at the age of eighty-five. Kay's extensive involvement with Club 20 has done much for the people in my district and for the State of Colorado. As her family and community mourn her passing, I believe it is appropriate to recognize the life of this exceptional woman, and her many contributions to her community and state.

Kay had been an active member of Club 20 since its founding in 1953, an organization dedicated to representing the people of the Western Slope at all levels of government. Kay was one of the first members awarded Emeritus status to acknowledge her years of commitment to the organization. During her years of service, Kay served as Treasurer, and was a member of both the Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to recognize the life of Kay Hayashi. She dedicated her life toward the betterment of her community, state and nation, and she will be greatly missed. My thoughts are with her loved ones during this difficult time of bereavement.

STATEMENT ON IRAN AND SMART SECURITY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn Iran's continued pursuit of nuclear weapons and its failure to disclose nuclear en-

richment projects to the international atomic energy agency. Surely the United States must utilize its influence as the world's largest democracy to encourage countries that have signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty—like Iran—to forego the pursuit of new nuclear weapons. However, there is a right way and there is a wrong way to register our influence in situations like this.

In October of last year, the foreign ministers of France, Germany, and the United Kingdom met in Tehran to negotiate the possibility of IAEA inspections of Iran's nuclear sites. Iran agreed to this deal. In the months since the Tehran summit, inspectors have found several sites that seem to have some connection to the production of nuclear materials. That means the inspections have been at the very least reasonably successful.

Today Congress voted on H. Con. Res. 398, a resolution condemning Iran's nuclear activities. This resolution demands that Iran immediately cease all efforts to acquire nuclear enrichment activities and calls for the country to honor its stated commitments to grant IAEA inspectors unrestricted access to nuclear sites. But the resolution also calls upon all state parties to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty—including the United States—to use "all appropriate means to deter, dissuade, and prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons."

Doesn't anyone remember the last time we provided someone with the authority to use all means "necessary and appropriate?" In case you've forgotten, let me remind you: When we granted President Bush the authority to use all means "necessary and appropriate," he lead us into a devastating conflict in Iraq, one which has already cost the lives of over 740 Americans and thousands of unarmed, innocent Iraqi civilians. Supporting another resolution that promotes the use of "all appropriate means" is like giving your kid the keys to the car after he's already wrecked it once. Even if this bill doesn't authorize the use of force against Iran, codifying the language of preemptive war is a dangerously slippery slope to tread.

We need to stop the spread of weapons of mass destruction, and keeping the American people safe must be our highest priority. But we must avoid equating our security with aggression and military force. There has to be a better way, and there is. One that emphasizes brains instead of brawn. One that is consistent with American values. I have introduced legislation to create a SMART Security Platform for the 21st Century. SMART stands for "Sensible, Multilateral American Response to Terrorism" and it calls for aggressive diplomacy, a commitment to nuclear nonproliferation, strong regional security arrangements and vigorous inspection regimes.

SMART security advocates maintaining our commitment to existing international treaties, like the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, the Biological Weapons Convention, and the Chemical Weapons Convention. SMART Security promotes adequately funding programs like the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program, which works with the Russian Federation and the states of the former Soviet Union to dismantle nuclear warheads, reduce nuclear stockpiles, and secure nuclear weapons in Russia. And we must replicate this type of program in other troubled regions, like Iran, because in the long

run, negotiating with other countries will keep us much safer than scaring them into submission.

The Bush doctrine has been tried, and it has failed. It's time for a new national security strategy. SMART Security defends America by relying on the very best of America—our commitment to peace and freedom, our compassion for the people of the world, and our capacity for multilateral leadership. SMART Security is tough, pragmatic and patriotic. SMART Security is smart, and it will keep America safe.

HONORING REBECCA GALLOWAY

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Rebecca Galloway for winning the Reading Is Fundamental National Poster Contest. In this back-to-school reading-motivation contest, Rebecca competed with more than 500 other entries nationwide. The poster she created, depicting a child reading a book with the sun, earth and stars in the background, took the top honors in this contest.

Ms. Galloway is a 10-year-old student from Warwick, Rhode Island. She is in the 5th grade at the Warwick Neck Elementary School. Rebecca enjoys reading in bed with her mother at night and they are both fans of the Nancy Drew Mystery series. Rebecca and her family understand how important reading is for children and they take advantage of the opportunities that books create for them daily. Rebecca hopes her poster will encourage other children to take advantage of these same opportunities.

Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) is a nationwide non-profit group that aims to ensure that all children have access to free books. RIF encourages children, especially those most at risk, to take home and keep the books they distribute. In partnership with the U.S. Department of Education and Nestlé, RIF distributed 16.5 million new books in 2003 to children throughout the country. RIF also supports various programs to encourage reading, such as the poster contest.

Ms. Galloway will receive a gift certificate to purchase books, a laptop computer, a basket of Nestlé products, and a \$1000 U.S. Savings Bond for winning the poster contest. She will also attend a special awards ceremony and her school will receive funds to purchase books for their library. In this day and age with so many forms of media competing for our children's attention, it is important that we encourage them to turn toward the infinite possibilities offered by books. Once again, I congratulate Rebecca Galloway for her award-winning poster and thank the Reading Is Fundamental organization for the work they do for the young minds of America.

TRIBUTE TO WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT BAIRD TIPSON

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Wittenberg University President Baird Tipson for his 9 years of dedicated service to the students and faculty of the university, and the community of Springfield, OH.

On July 1, President Tipson will be leaving his post as president for a new opportunity to serve as the 26th president of Washington College in Chestertown, MD.

During his tenure at Wittenberg, President Tipson has been a leader in promoting the highest standards of excellence in higher education. In particular, he has led the university's efforts to provide a state-of-the-art learning environment for students.

In recent years, I have had the privilege of working with President Tipson to complete Wittenberg's most ambitious capital improvement to date, and the most significant improvement to the university's science facilities since the original construction of the Science Hall in 1965. I am of course referring to the Barbara Deer Kuss Center.

President Tipson and I worked together to complete this innovative science education center that provides Wittenberg students and faculty with a safe environment to perform their scientific research as part of the science education curriculum.

Over the years, President Tipson has also served as a leader in the Springfield community. He served as the president of the Springfield Symphony Orchestra Board and as a member of the Chamber of Commerce Board. In addition, he has served on the boards of the Community Leadership Academy and Aid for College Opportunities (ACO), and as a member of the Springfield City Schools Business Advisory Council.

I have lived in Springfield for most of my adult life and have seen Wittenberg University grow into one of the best liberal arts universities in Ohio. I have greatly enjoyed representing and working with the university over the years. And, a highlight of that time has been my working partnership with President Tipson.

As the Member of Congress who represents Springfield and Wittenberg University in the U.S. House of Representatives, I am proud of the achievements and curriculum enhancements made under the steady leadership of President Tipson.

In closing, I would like to express my best regards to President Tipson and his wife, Sarah, as they embark on this new endeavor.

INTRODUCING THE VIDEO DESCRIPTION RESTORATION ACT OF 2004

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the "Video Description Restoration Act of

2004." Mr. Speaker, the language in this bill is identical to provisions in Section 9 of Senate bill S. 1264, sponsored by Senators JOHN MCCAIN and FRITZ HOLLINGS. Mr. Speaker, we have a long history in telecommunications policy of trying to ensure that the benefits of technology reach all segments of American society. Our policies, enacted by Congress and implemented by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), have sought to further the three principal goals of telecommunications policy, namely, universal service, diversity, and localism—even as such policy objectives are buffeted by rapid technological change and competition.

For instance, in the late 1980s, the Telecommunications Subcommittee enacted legislation to include a decoder chip in all televisions to ensure that the deaf and hard-of-hearing community had affordable access to closed captioning. While the industry opposed such efforts as being too costly, with exaggerated claims of how much the price of televisions would rise as a result of this mandate, the technology cost was minimal and now turns out to be about a dollar a set. The FCC's video description rules were designed to similarly serve a community, in this case the blind community, in a modest effort to ensure that television was available to that community. Video description is the insertion of narration about the visual setting and background when that information is not already included in the audio portion of the program. Because television is a mainstay for information, news, and family-oriented viewing in the home, it is important that steps are taken, in furtherance of longstanding universal service goals, to reach the blind community.

This bill would restore the video programming rules. Recently the DC Circuit Court of Appeals invalidated the rules, alleging that the Commission did not have sufficient authority to promulgate such rules. Passage of this legislation would remove any ambiguity. I believe Congress ought to give the Commission clear guidance that such rules should be reinstated in a way that no court could question the intent of Congress that the Commission should have such authority. Moreover, by approving such legislation, Congress can also establish that such video description rules do not regulate content in violation of any Constitutional protections. Broadcasters are free to air whatever content they wish over the course of a week. The video description rules simply require that a modest portion of such speech be made available to all listeners, including those who cannot see. The regulations would not stipulate which speech is acceptable, favored, or otherwise and broadcasters can choose which speech they wish to make available to the blind community. In fact, rather than infringing upon speech, the rules celebrate it, essentially saying that such speech is so important, so valued, that more Americans deserve to be able to hear it over their public airwaves, as broadcast by public licensees who are required by law to serve the public interest.

Mr. Speaker, I hope the House will move legislation this year to re-instate these important video description rules and look forward to working with all of my colleagues on this issue in the weeks and months ahead.

RECOGNITION OF CORPORAL
FOREST JOSTES

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Corporal Forest Jostes who recently was killed in action fighting for freedom in Iraq.

Corporal Jostes was a 21-year-old from Albion, Illinois who served as an Army Corporal with the 1st Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division from Ft. Hood, Texas. He was a 2000 graduate of Edwards County High School, after which he joined the National Guard at the age of 17. He had only been in Iraq for about a week, when military personnel say his Humvee was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade, killing Jostes and the driver, in a suburb of Baghdad.

Corporal Jostes is survived by his parents, Von and Diane Ibbotson; a sister, Michelle Lee Teeter; two brothers Benjamin L. Jostes and Evan R. Ibbotson; and his grandparents, John and Laura Ibbotson, Glen and Darlene Kellison and Norman and Shirley Costley. I am proud of the service this young man has given to our country and the service he and others are doing everyday. Not enough can be said about Corporal Jostes and our other brave men and women who are serving in Iraq. It is troops like him that are risking their lives every day to ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the rest of the world. I salute him and my best wishes go out to his family and all the troops fighting to ensure freedom and democracy.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KAREN
OSBORN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Karen Osborn of Fruita, Colorado for her dedication to the students of Fruita Monument High School. In her position as activities secretary, Karen has worked to improve the lives of the community's youth by helping to expand the range of activities and the students' ability to participate in them.

Karen began her career in the school system as a room mother at Shelledy Elementary, and moved on to become attendance secretary at Fruita Monument High School in 1985. The following year she moved over to the athletics department as activities secretary. Over her years in this position Karen has seen many changes, from the introduction of girls' soccer, the change from typewriters to computers, and the graduation of her own three children. In addition to her extensive administrative duties, Karen has taken on many responsibilities above and beyond the duties of her job, including coaching the cheerleading squad and preparing food for various tournaments hosted by Fruita Monument.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring the service of Karen Osborn to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation. She

has done much to enrich the lives of the students at Fruita Monument High School, and I sincerely thank her for her service.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS
REGARDING ARBITRARY DETEN-
TION OF DR. WANG BINGZHANG

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 326 which calls for the release of Dr. Wang Bingzhang by the Chinese government. I would like to thank my distinguished colleague from California, Representative GRACE NAPOLITANO for bringing this important matter to the floor. I stand in agreement with this resolution in which it states that the release of Dr. Wang should a priority of United States foreign policy in relation to China.

Dr. Wang is a known pro-democracy advocate, who has supported only peaceful means to bring about change. The idea that the Chinese government has arrested him in connection with their new anti-terrorism laws is ludicrous. There is no credible proof that Dr. Wang is a terrorist or has planned any terrorist activities. His only crime has been to be a vocal critic of a government he believed to be restrictive of personal freedoms. I cannot think of a greater irony than the fact that Dr. Wang's arrest and detention is clear proof of the charges he leveled against the Chinese government. Our nation would never allow a man to be detained simply for holding an opposing view. While we cannot tell other independent nations how to govern themselves, and while nations retain the right to make arrests and protect their homeland, we still have a moral imperative to speak out when nations take egregious actions against innocent individuals. It is clear that Dr. Wang is innocent and he is being made to suffer simply because of his political opinions. I state the fact again, that no credible evidence has been presented to show that Dr. Wang took part in any violent or terroristic actions against the Chinese government. His sentence of life in prison is undoubtedly harsh and unjustified. His currently deteriorating health condition means that this life sentence is instead a death sentence. Again, I stress that the Chinese government has the right to run its justice system as it sees fit, but this is truly an egregious case of miscarried justice.

Dr. Wang is a permanent resident of the United States and has lived here with his family for many years. I can only imagine the stress and anguish his family is feeling now, not knowing the fate of their loved one. I congratulate again the sponsors of this concurrent resolution for bringing this case to light. We must fight cases of miscarried justice abroad the same way we would if they occurred here in the United States. Otherwise we will set a bad precedent for the proper use of the judicial system and the means that governments have to punish true criminals.

CAMPAIGN FOR AFRICAN
AMERICAN ACHIEVEMENT DAY

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise to designate in Congress, May 8, 2004, as the "Campaign for African American Achievement Day." This special occasion has been inspired by both the infinite potential of our African American youth and the commitment of the National Urban League.

The Campaign for African American Achievement is a national program administered by the Urban League. Out of 115 Urban League affiliates across the country, 20 are chosen to implement the program. I am proud to represent one of the districts selected to participate in this honorable campaign, the great city of Indianapolis, IN.

Under the program's goals, the Indianapolis Urban League works to support the academic achievement and challenges facing children in Marion County, IN. The League hosts a yearly educational summit for parents and students as well as a college financial aid workshop. It also organizes college tours, scholarship essay contests and membership in the National Achievers Society; a national honors society for talented students of color who obtain a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

On May 8th, the Indianapolis chapter will be conducting its seventh induction ceremony for the National Achievers Society (NAS). Honors students participating in the induction ceremony and in other activities of the Campaign for African-American Achievement, will qualify to be considered for one of 40, four-year, \$10,000 scholarships to be awarded in the spring of 2005.

I commend the National Urban League and the affiliate Indianapolis Urban League chapter for their continued commitment to the positive development of our youth. I ask that you join me in honoring both the organization and the students by designating May 8th as the "Campaign for African American Achievement Day."

TRIBUTE TO MARY MCGRORY

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mary McGrory. Mary McGrory was known for her strong opinions, which were liberal without equivocation or apology. But when I think of Mary, I will always remember her as a newspaper reporter, who gathered facts the old-fashioned way: by watching events and taking notes, staking out meetings of congressional leadership to be the first to get an interview, and relentlessly working the phones.

When she received a press club award in 1998, Mary said, "I should confess that I always felt a little sorry for people who didn't work for newspapers." We shared a deep love of both politics and print journalism, and I think her commitment to reporting is what set her work apart from her peers. At a time when commentators often try to substitute spin and

second-hand analysis for the hard work of original reporting, Mary stood out for offering fresh insight backed up by her own interviews and observations.

Over the course of more than 50 years in Washington, Mary covered every major story in American politics, from McCarthyism to the Kennedy era to Vietnam to Watergate to the September 11 attacks. And because she formed opinions based on her own reporting, Mary didn't have to try to tell anyone what to think to be effective—she let us inside her mind to see just how she worked through the events. The result was far more powerful than what passes for “analysis” among the talking heads and pundits who now dominate political journalism.

An early example was her work covering the Army-McCarthy hearings for the Washington Star in 1954, when she found the telling details to describe the investigation led by Senator Joseph McCarthy. “For eight days,” she wrote, “the Army secretary has been having his honesty questioned, his motives impugned and his patriotism challenged. He has been bullied, baited and patronized. He has been treated like a stubborn and not very bright child. Throughout his ordeal, moreover, he has been subjected to the rather jostling familiarity of Senator McCarthy, who calls him ‘Bob.’”

Mary was a star attraction at my annual legislative seminar, where she entertained and educated my constituents with a lifetime of stories about Washington and the political figures that have shaped the nation. She spoke at the event in 1998, 1999 and 2001.

But even though Mary knew the leading figures on Capitol Hill—and watched generations of congressional leaders come and go—she was always more interested in writing about the underdog, the long shot, or the worthy cause that seemed to have no chance of success. “If you want to abolish land mines, if you want to reform campaign spending” or “if you want to save children from abuse, or stupid laws, or thickheaded judges, you have my telephone number,” she once said. “All the places of little hope, that’s my constituency.”

I am proud to have been part of her constituency, and when I look at the picture on my desk of her with my son, Bobby, I will remember her deep sense of compassion.

As Bobby gets older, I will show him that picture and tell him about what made Mary one of the greats of her profession—her remarkable commitment to everything that makes newspaper reporting a noble calling.

HONORING THE WILZIG HOSPITAL AT THE JERSEY CITY MEDICAL CENTER

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Jersey City Medical Center on the opening of the new Wilzig Hospital. The extraordinary life of Mr. Siggi B. Wilzig will be honored by Liberty Health on Thursday, May 6, 2004, at the Hyatt Regency on the Hudson in Jersey City, New Jersey.

The life of the late Mr. Wilzig is a story of struggle and triumph. A survivor of the Auschwitz concentration camp, Mr. Wilzig came to the United States in 1947. Starting out as a bow tie presser, Mr. Wilzig's tireless work soon led to a position as a furniture salesman, and from there to manager of the furniture store. After wisely investing his earning in the Wilshire Oil Company, Mr. Wilzig was elected to their Board of Directors in 1965. He went on to serve as President and Chief Executive Officer. Rising from humble beginnings, Mr. Wilzig is the personification of a self-made man.

Under Mr. Wilzig's strong leadership, the Wilshire Oil Company acquired a large percentage of the Trust Company of New Jersey. In 1971, Mr. Wilzig was elected President, Chief Executive Officer, and Chairman of the Board. He served in that capacity until his passing in 2003. Mr. Wilzig was also an ardent community activist, serving on the National Israel Bond Cabinet and the United States Holocaust Memorial Council. For his outstanding volunteer work, Mr. Wilzig received the Prime Minister's Medal of the State of Israel and the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

Mr. Wilzig's life of philanthropy and community activism is being commemorated by naming the Wilzig Hospital at the Jersey City Medical Center in his honor. The Wilzig Hospital will bring to Jersey City modern amenities that have become standard in hospitals, as well as providing the tools necessary for the most updated medical care. One such major technological advance is the new wireless telemetry system, which allows physicians and nurses to monitor every moment of a patient's cardiac activity from a computer.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Siggi B. Wilzig, a survivor, a talented businessman, and a source of inspiration. His legacy will be forever remembered with the opening of the new Wilzig Hospital at the Jersey City Medical Center.

HONORING LAKE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lake View High School for its outstanding commitment to educating our community on the occasion of its 130th anniversary celebration.

Lake View High School opened its doors on May 4, 1874, with an enrollment of eight students. A larger school was built after a fire destroyed the main building in March of 1885. After several more additions in the following decades, the school now covers an entire square block and is home to over 1,000 students.

After opening its doors 130 years ago, Lake View High School continues to advance its vision of motivating students toward excellence and responsibility in learning. With these tools, students are provided with a backbone of literacy and competence for later in life.

As the oldest high school in Illinois, Lake View has set an example of educational excel-

lence. Accepting students from throughout Chicago, the school cultivates the growth of accelerated learning opportunities through its Scholars program and Academy Programs in Math, International Languages, and Science and Technology.

Lake View High School's continuing record of accomplishment is also due in no small part to the vision of the administrators who have guided the school through the years. Lake View's 13th principal, Mr. Scott Feaman, has managed the school with distinction for the past nine years. Lake View's consistent record of scholastic achievement is testimony to the passion of both students and administrators.

I have had the honor of participating in several events at Lake View High School, and I have been consistently impressed with the maturity and thoughtfulness its students possess. Lake View continues to do an excellent job of grooming the leaders of tomorrow, and I have no doubt that some of Lake View's current students will join Chicago Alderman Gene Schuller, Reverend George Rice and screen star Gloria Swanson in Lake View's annals of distinguished alumni.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me pleasure to join with the people of the Ravenswood neighborhood and all of Chicago in congratulating Lake View High School on their 130th Anniversary, and wish them continued growth and success in the future.

LOSS OF JOBS TO ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues that our constituents at home continue to struggle with the loss of jobs to both cheap foreign labor; where employers pay just a fraction of what is paid here, and also provide no paid benefits of any sort. They are losing jobs here at home to illegal immigration.

Illegal immigration has risen to a staggering rate. Nearly 1/2 million illegal aliens enter this country every year. These law-breakers, are taking the jobs that are held by and needed by our citizens.

They also drain the much needed and limited social services that would normally go to American citizens, who either themselves, or their families came to this country legally.

No nation can consider itself a sovereign nation if it cannot define where its borders begin and where they end. And it certainly cannot consider itself sovereign if it cannot determine who is and is not allowed entry into that nation. Without such control, a nation loses its ability to protect the rights and liberties of its people.

Our founding fathers were no less certain in this respect, when Governor Morris stated at the constitutional convention: “every Society, from a great Nation down to a Club, had the right of declaring conditions on which new members should be admitted.” Congress should be no less adamant. American citizens are struggling for work. They should not be the victims of a system that turns its back to illegal immigration.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHARLES
LATHAM

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to the life and memory of Charles Latham of DeBeque, Colorado, who passed away recently at the age of sixty-two. Charles was a lifelong Coloradan and rancher, and a beloved friend and colleague to many in his DeBeque community. As his family and community mourn his passing, I believe it is appropriate to recognize the life of this exceptional man, and his many contributions to his community and state.

Born in Grand Junction, Charles graduated from DeBeque High School and attended Mesa Junior College before beginning his career as a rancher. An active member of the community, Charles served on the DeBeque School Board for seventeen years. His dedication to ranching in Colorado included membership in the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, Bluestone Water Conservancy District Board, Garfield County 4-H, and the 4-H steering committee.

Mr. Speaker, we are all terribly saddened by the loss of Charles Latham. He did much to better his DeBeque community, and I am deeply honored to bring his life to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation. My heart goes out to his family during this difficult time of bereavement.

TRIBUTE TO EVELYN DUBROW ON
HER BIRTHDAY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I want to invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Ms. Evelyn Dubrow who is celebrating her birthday today—May 6. I am too much of a gentleman and Evy is too much of a lady for me to tell you exactly which birthday this is.

Evy has been a force for good within the American Labor movement for over sixty years, and a good deal of that time she has worked with the Congress. Her first four decades were with the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU), where she worked with its renowned president David Dubinsky. For the last twenty years Evy has been with that union in its new organizational incarnation as UNITE (the Union of Needle Trades, Industrial and Textile Employees). Evy served as UNITE's Vice President and Legislative Director.

Mr. Speaker, Evy began her remarkable work on Capitol Hill in 1956 when she was one of the few women lobbyists in the halls of the Congress. She distinguished herself as a devoted and indefatigable champion of America's working women and men. She enlisted the support of then Senator John F. Kennedy in her fight against efforts to outlaw secondary boycotts, and she fought to increase the minimum wage to one dollar an hour.

Under the leadership of President Kennedy and President Lyndon Johnson, when the

Congress considered a series of critical bills that transformed our nation in the 1960s, Evy was a leader in the fight for civil rights and voting rights, the establishment of Medicare, pension protection, occupational safety and health rules, and a number of other causes that led to expanded social justice and economic opportunity.

Evy is forthright and frank; she tells it like it is. But she is honest in presenting her case. Her word can always be trusted, and she will do anything to promote one of her worthy causes. And she has a remarkable understanding of the members of the House and the Senate, knowledge which she is able to use most effectively. In recognition of her achievements and accomplishments, Evy has been awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, our nation's highest civilian honor.

Mr. Speaker, as Evy marks another milestone today, I invite my colleagues to join me in extending our very dear friend best wishes for a very Happy Birthday, and for many, many more.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH BIRTHDAY
OF SOUTHWEST GENERAL HOSPITAL

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the celebration of the 25th birthday of Southwest General Hospital in San Antonio, Texas.

In 1979 medical professionals and businessmen came together and realized the need for a hospital to serve one of the city's neediest sectors. The result was Southwest General on San Antonio's southwest side. To this day, Southwest General is the only hospital located in this growing and changing quadrant of San Antonio.

A 319-bed facility, Southwest General Hospital offers all major hospital services including Perinatal/Women's Services, Psychiatric Services, Diabetic Education, and a Diabetes Wound Care Center. A recently completed Emergency Waiting Room expands upon those basic services and will allow the hospital to better serve its emergency room patients and their loved ones.

In addition to providing general medical care, Southwest General Hospital serves as an invaluable resource to the community. I have worked with the hospital, the Alamo Breast Cancer Foundation, the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, and the Texas Department of Health to bring Breast Cancer Awareness Day to the Southside. It is through events like this that Southwest General Hospital makes an impact on the health of the people it serves.

I would like to specially recognize Richard Gonzalez, CEO of Southwest General. Richard has worked tirelessly to ensure that each patient receives care with the dignity and respect they deserve when visiting Southwest General. He has assembled a great team that carries this message into every thing they do.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing this irreplaceable health care institution and wishing Southwest General Hospital a very happy birthday.

IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL
VISION STRATEGY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Congressional Vision Caucus, I rise to recognize May as Healthy Vision Month, and to discuss the important recommendations of the Vision Problems Action Plan, A National Public Health Strategy as a way to prevent blindness and vision loss.

Good vision is critical to conducting activities of daily living, is important for language, and affects developmental learning, communicating, working, health and quality of life.

Unfortunately, far too many people are at risk for losing their eyesight. More than 80 million Americans have a potentially blinding eye disease, 3 million have low vision, 1.1 million are legally blind, and an additional 200,000 are more severely visually impaired. Despite the fact that half of all blindness can be prevented, far too many people do not access the care they need. If nothing is done, the number of blind and visually impaired individuals will double by 2030.

That is why awareness, early diagnosis and prevention are so important. Healthy Vision Month, a component of Healthy People 2010, is a national eye health campaign to raise awareness about the various conditions that can affect eyesight and cause vision loss.

Additionally, a coalition of leading eye health experts, including Prevent Blindness America, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Lighthouse International, and the American Academy of Ophthalmology, recently released the Vision Problems Action Plan, A National Public Health Strategy, to provide our nation with a framework for preventing vision loss. This report can be accessed at http://www.preventblindness.org/news/releases/Action_Plan.html

This groundbreaking study recommends that, in order to reduce the occurrence of vision loss and its accompanying disabilities, our nation must concentrate our efforts on three priority areas: prevention/public health, access to care and treatment including rehabilitation, and research.

Our public health and prevention campaign must ensure that vision programs at the National Eye Institute (NEI) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have the resources they need to improve communication and education campaigns, increase surveillance, epidemiology and prevention research; and implement appropriate programs, policies and systems changes.

In order to ensure access to and availability of treatment and rehabilitation services for individuals with vision loss, we must support programs at the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that remove barriers and improve access to eye exams currently covered under Medicare, such as diabetic eye exams and glaucoma detection for high risk populations.

We must also strengthen the Medicare program to advance coverage for Medicare vision rehabilitation services as provided by orientation and mobility specialists, rehabilitation teachers and low-vision therapists including in patients homes and their environment.

Finally, we must bolster our research efforts to improve our understanding of the eye and visual system in health and disease, as well as developing the most appropriate and effective means of prevention, and access to treatment and rehabilitation.

This report provides the roadmap we need to raise awareness about vision loss, give individuals the tools they need to prevent it, and give hope to the millions already suffering from vision loss that better treatments for can be found.

We would like to thank all of the organizations involved in crafting this report, including the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the American Optometric Association, the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention, Light-house International, the National Alliance For Eye and Vision Research, the National Eye Institute (NEI) and most importantly, Prevent Blindness America. Prevent Blindness America should be commended for spearheading this effort, for bringing together these various groups, and for its almost century-long tradition of preventing vision loss.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BRADLEY CHRISTIAN

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an individual who, surrounded by culture in his formative years, had a vision to preserve an important aspect of the Virgin Islands quality of life. Mr. Bradley Christian, along with Norma Christian and Claudia Walker were the first officers of the St. Croix Heritage Dancer, founded by Enrique Santos.

Mr. Christian has committed himself to preserving our cultural dances for future generations so that they may have an awareness of the rich culture to be found in the Virgin Islands, specifically on St. Croix. These dances are a combination of the influence of the seven flags that flew over our island and the ethnicities of the different people who have lived here. They have evolved into a performance that is second to none, incorporating the influences of the German and French quadrille.

Mr. Christian and the St. Croix Heritage Dancers have performed all over the Caribbean and the United States, including being featured during the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in 1990. The St. Croix Heritage Dancers is celebrating their 23rd year anniversary with a Hibiscus Ball on Saturday, May 22nd. King Michael Dow and Queen Sylvia Stewart will rule over this year's celebration. The 2004 honorees are Eldred "Edgie" Christian, Jr. and Ernest "Prince Galloway" Galloway, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my family, staff and the people of the United States Virgin Islands, it is an honor for me to enter this tribute to Mr. Bradley Christian into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, on May 5, 2004, due to official business, this Member unavoidably missed rollcall vote number 146 on H. Res. 605 that recognizes the importance of increasing autism awareness. Had this Member been present, he would have voted "aye."

IMMIGRATION REFORM

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge that Congress make immigration reform a top priority.

Our immigration system is critically flawed. In fact, it's the Achilles' Heel of America's national security. We learned that hard reality on September 11th and we're still paying for it today, as foreign visitors and illegal immigrants alike move effortlessly across our borders.

Since 2001, Congress and the Bush Administration have made changes that have addressed some of the many systemic flaws in the immigration process. But, a great deal remains untackled on the road to ensuring America's safety.

We still have twelve to fifteen million immigrants living and working—illegally—on American soil. Fortunately, most are not security threats and simply seek to improve their own economic status by working for U.S. wages. But, as we witnessed on 9/11, some are here to do us harm either as terrorists, or, more likely, by engaging in criminal activities. We must continue to identify and expel those who pose public safety threats.

Most immigrants are good people. However, numbers matter, and simply put, we're letting too many people in, and we aren't properly assimilating the roughly 1.5 million new immigrants who come here annually. Many of them are uneducated, unskilled, and speak no English. This has real, adverse, impacts on American life. Jobs are lost to cheap foreign labor influx, schools are overcrowded, public health care is strained by millions who lack coverage, and urban sprawl and congestion impacts the environment.

Mr. Speaker, Congress can no longer ignore the immigration issue. We must reform current policies to radically curtail illegal inflows. Our colleague from South Carolina, Representative GRESHAM BARRETT, has introduced comprehensive, much needed immigration reform in H.R. 3522. I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this important measure.

COMMEMORATING PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 20th annual Public Service Recognition Week. I am proud to be a co-chair of the Congressional Public Service Caucus, proud to have been a federal employee, and proud to represent in Congress a large number of my constituents who are federal employees. These employees are a national asset who perform hard work day after day with professionalism and dedication.

Federal employees are the backbone of our government. They can be found working to find cures for diseases at the National Institute of Health, helping seniors with their Social Security benefits, representing our interests overseas in the State Department, serving as stewards of parks in the National Park Service, helping our country defend the homeland at the Department of Defense and at the Department of Homeland Security. These are but a few examples of the many areas in which federal employees are serving our country.

We must not forget those federal employees who are risking their lives in the war against terrorism. The first combat death in Afghanistan in the wake of September 11 was CIA officer Johnny Micheal Spann, one of my constituents. And today, federal employees can be found throughout the globe fighting the war against terrorism in many different ways.

The sacrifice and hard work of our federal employees, whether abroad or at home, should never be forgotten. Federal employees deserve a proper pay raise—which is why I have been pleased to support pay parity for our federal employees since I have been in Congress.

They deserve adequate health care—which is why I have supported legislation to make sure federal employees get the health benefits they need.

And retired federal employees must not be forgotten—which is why I have supported legislation to aid federal employees in their retirement. Federal employees deserve to be honored during Public Service Recognition Week. But we must always remember the hard work they do for our country throughout the year.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ANGELO DEL ROSSI

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a cultural innovator in my district, Mr. Angelo Del Rossi, President Emeritus of Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn, NJ. This week, the Paper Mill Playhouse will host their 2004 Paper Mill Gala as a tribute to Mr. Del Rossi's lifelong love of theatre.

Mr. Del Rossi is a native of New Jersey, who attended Rutgers University and graduated from the Neighborhood Playhouse School in New York.

Mr. Del Rossi joined Paper Mill Playhouse in 1963. He became Paper Mill's Associate

Producer in 1965, and was appointed Executive Producer in 1975.

After much of the theatre was destroyed in a fire in 1980, his commitment did not waver, and he became the driving force behind the rebuilding efforts.

Under Mr. Del Rossi's leadership, Paper Mill has continued to flourish as a cultural center in my district, creating original works, hosting national and international productions, and nurturing young artists into stars of the stage.

No stranger to accolade, Angelo Del Rossi was honored in 1983 with a special resolution from the floor of the New Jersey State Senate. He has, on multiple occasions, been given the distinction of "Outstanding New Jersey" by our state's newspaper, The Star-Ledger, and has been named one of the 25 most influential people in the New Jersey arts community.

He is a founding member of the National Alliance for Musical Theatre and has served as President of the Council of Stock Theaters. He is a Board member of ArtPride/New Jersey

and the New Jersey Theatre Alliance. He has also served on the panel of the opera-musical theatre program of the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as on its policy and planning committee.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending my thanks to my neighbor, Mr. Angelo Del Rossi, for his contributions to the cultural life of our community, and I invite my colleagues to join me in sending him our congratulations for having brought such positive recognition to the city of Millburn.